

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 01121 161515Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 SP-02 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /048 W

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P 161430Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8271

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DEPT FOR AF/W KILLION, AID FOR AFR/SFWA SHEAR AND
AFR/GC DRAGON

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: GOS PROPOSAL FOR AMENDING AID BILATERAL AGREEMENT

1. ON FEBRUARY 10 AT MEETING WITH GOS MINISTER OF PLAN
OUSMANE SECK CONCERNING OVERALL USAID PROGRAM IN SENEGAL
AMBASSADOR RAISED QUESTION OF GOS PROPOSAL TO AMEND BI-
LATERAL AGREEMENT. MINISTER SECK HAD EXPRESSED DEEP
APPRECIATION OF HIS GOVERNMENT FOR SIZE AND QUALITY OF
USAID PROGRAM. AS TO BILATERAL AMENDMENT PROBLEM HE
SAID QUESTION OF STATUS OF AID PERSONNEL HAD ARISEN BE-
FORE WITHIN GOS AND HE HAD ALWAYS TAKEN POSITION THAT
UNLIKE SOME OTHER DONORS WHO OPERATE WITH ALMOST NO
DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL IN THEIR MISSIONS, BUT NUMEROUS
TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS WITHOUT DIPLOMATIC STATUS, THE
AMERICAN PROGRAM OPERATES WITH CORE OF ADMINISTRATIVE
AND PROJECT OFFICERS WORKING OUT OF EMBASSY CARRYING
DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES. MINISTER SECK SAID HE UNDERSTOOD
THIS MODUS OPERANDI AND UP TO NOW WAS ABLE TO ACT
MORE OR LESS AS SPOKESMAN ON BEHALF USG WITHIN GOS IN
PERMITTING THIS SITUATION TO CONTINUE . AS MINISTER OF
PLAN HE APPRECIATED SIZE AND QUALITY OF USAID PROGRAM
AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM THAT NECESSARILY ACCOMPANIED
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IT.

2. HOWEVER, SECK SAID, AS USAID PROGRAM EXPANDS AND
NUMBER OF PERSONNEL INCREASES ACCORDINGLY, PROBLEM OF
BALANCE OF USG MISSION SIZE VERSUS OTHER DIPLOMATIC
MISSIONS ARISES. SECK SAID AS LONG AS PERSONNEL ARE
SITUATED IN DAKAR AND WORKING OUT OF EMBASSY, AND AS-

SIGNMENTS OF NEW STAFF MEMBERS ARE RELATED TO NEW PROGRAMS, WE SHOULD HAVE NO PARTICULAR PROBLEM PROVIDED OVERALL NUMBERS REMAIN WITHIN REASONABLE LIMITS. HOWEVER, FOR TECHNICIANS WORKING ON PROJECTS IN FIELD THEIR STATUS WOULD HAVE TO BE LIKE THAT OF OTHER QUOTE COOPERANTS UNQUOTE (TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS) AND THEY COULD NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES. MINISTER SECK FELT IMPETUS FOR AMENDMENT TO BILATERAL AGREEMENT MUST HAVE COME FROM FONMINISTRY WITH THIS IN MIND.

3. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT NEED FOR GOS TO ACCEPT CREATION OF NEW POSITIONS WITHIN USAID MISSION AS SENEGAL BILATERAL AND OMVS PROGRAMS GROW. IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIFORM WORLDWIDE POLICY, THESE DIRECT-HIRE OFFICIALS ARE ON EMBASSY STAFF WITH SIMILAR PRIVILEGES AS OTHER TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF. ALSO, PERSONNEL WORKING ON AID MISSION STAFF ARE CAREER OFFICERS INVOLVED IN PLANNING, CONCEPTION AND MONITORING OF USAID PROGRAMS WHEREAS TECHNICIANS WORKING ON PROJECTS ARE USUALLY CONTRACTORS INVOLVED IN FIELD IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT.

4. MINISTER SECK AGREED WITH FOREGOING AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF NEGOTIATIONS OF BILATERAL SO HE CAN CONTINUE INTERJECT POINT OF VIEW OF MINPLAN WHICH ANXIOUS TO MAKE CONDITIONS FOR EXPANSION USAID PROGRAM AS FAVORABLE AS POSSIBLE.

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.

AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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